TO HER

ROYAL HIGHNESS

THE

PRINCESS of *WALES.*

MADAM,

SOME of the moſt wonderful Productions of *America* have now the Honour to lay themſelves at the Feet of your ROYAL HIGHNESS: Things new and ſtrange to the Inhabitants of this Side of the Globe; and, which muſt therefore neceſſarily excite, in Minds of infinitely leſs Diſcernment and Piety than that of your ROYAL HIGHNESS, exalted and religious Sentiments of the Power, Wiſdom, and Goodneſs of that Almighty Being, who not only formed the Univerſe, but has adorned every Part of it with an inconceivable Variety of Beauty and Magnificence.

IT was in Obedience to the Commands of our late *moſt Gracious* QUEEN, who condeſcended to over-look and approve my Drawings of the moſt extraordinary Curioſities of Nature obſervable in *Carolina*, and the adjacent Countries ſubject to the Crown of *Great Britain*, that I applied myſelf to compile a *Natural Hiſtory* of thoſe Parts of the World; and *Her Majeſty* was pleaſed to take the firſt Volume of this Work under her own *Royal Patronage*.

SUCH an Inſtance of Goodneſs emboldened me to hope your ROYAL HIGHNESS would vouchſafe the like Honour to this ſecond and laſt Volume; and I have been ſo happy not only to obtain Pardon for my Preſumption, but likewiſe to find the utmoſt of my Ambition gratified in the Leave you have been pleaſed to grant me, of publiſhing my Labours under the Protection of your *Illuſtrious Name*.

MARK CATESBY *The Natural History of Carolina, Florida and the Bahama Islands* LONDON, 1731–1747 CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES Octavo